

Abstract

RESEARCH SUBJECT: Compliance and Self-Care in Adolescents with Type I Diabetes

STUDENT: Heather C. Marcum

DEGREE: Masters of Science

COLLEGE: College of Applied Science and Technology

DATE: May, 2010

Type I diabetes is a chronic illness that can lead to serious health related complications. Adolescents with type I diabetes must learn and comply with an accurate health management program to maintain good glycemic control to avoid diabetes-related complications. The purpose of this study is to describe the factors that predict compliance among adolescents with type I diabetes. This is a modified replication of Kyngas and Rissanen's (2001) study. The framework is based on the Theoretical Model of Compliance of Adolescents with Diabetes (Kyngas, 1999). The sample will consist of 1,000 adolescents between the ages of 13 and 17 years who have a scheduled routine visit at the St. Vincent Pediatric Diabetes Clinic at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital. A 58 item questionnaire formulated from the theoretical model of compliance will be used to measure the following: compliance; sense of normality; support from nurses, physicians, parents and friends; energy and willpower; motivation; subjective experience of results; impact of disease, attitude; fear of complications and hypoglycemia. There will also be 12 questions that pertain to background variables. Identifying factors that predict compliance with self-care will assist health care providers in transition planning for adolescents.